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14 August 1979

Worldwide Report

LAW OF THE SEA

No. 101



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ISSUES FACING UN SEA LAW CONFERENCE REVIEWED

Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 19 Jul 79 LD

[Text] New York, July 19. TASS--Representatives of some 150 states are taking part in the eighth session of the U.N. Law of the Sea Conference, opening here today. On the agenda are topical problems of using the resources and expanses of the world's ocean.

Many important problems, connected with safeguarding the interests of sea navigation, fishing, studies and uses of the ocean were discussed at the previous session of the conference, which began working in 1973. Compromise provisions were worked out on the regime governing international straits, 200-mile economic zones were set up, a 12-sea-mile limit was established for territorial waters, and pollution of the sea was combatted.

These provisions, supported by the overwhelming majority of the conference participants, will become an integral part of the General Convention of the Law of the Sea. Its revised draft is under consideration by the current session.

The session will begin its proceedings with a discussion of outstanding details of the regime governing the exploitation of deep sea concretions rich in nickel, cobalt, manganese and other valuable minerals.

An international agency for the sea bottom is also to be considered, its composition and powers and machinery for taking decisions are to be settled.

An acute problem at the conference is the definition of the outside boundaries of the continental shelf. Beyond these boundaries is a wide international area of the sea bottom, which in the draft convention is proclaimed as the common heritage of mankind.

The definition of the boundaries of the shelf will determine the sovereign right of coastal states to its resources. With active participation of the Soviet delegation, compromise formulas were worked out which make it possible to solve this complex problem with due consideration for the interests of all states.

For success of the conference it is important to reach agreement on the settlement of disputes concerning the boundaries of sea expanses between states. Such disputes affect their sovereign rights and interests. In conformity with international law, they can be settled only through negotiations or other means of settlement by agreement of the

parties to the dispute. Some states seek to impose such an order upon the conference under which mandatory decisions would be adopted without participation and consent of the countries whose rights and interests are affected.

The Soviet Union consistently comes out for such a solution to the problems of the world ocean which would make possible exploitation of its wealth for the good of all mankind. It is fighting against any unilateral actions, aimed essentially at an imperialist division of the sea expanses.

CSO: 5200

UN DELEGATE YANKOV INTERVIEWED ON SEA LAW CONFERENCE

Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 28 Jun 79 p 4 AU

[Interview with Prof Aleksandur Yankov, Bulgarian delegate to the UN and Third Committee chairman of the Law of the Sea Conference by Marko Semov and Valentin Izmirliiev, in Geneva, date not given]

[Excerpt] Question: Are certain complications in the work of the conference possible?

Answer: You ask me that question now, when the eighth session of the conference has been concluded. For the time being, a preliminary draft project has been worked out. It is a large draft project on a comprehensive sea law convention. Unfortunately, however, not all questions have been coordinated. There are still unresolved problems regarding the economic and financial character of exploitation of the seabed at very great depths. The creation of an international organ, even of an international enterprise, is envisaged in the connection. That is something new. No such international enterprise has existed heretofore. It will not be an enterprise of the multinational corporation type, but an enterprise which will be placed under control and be a part of the organizational system of a new international organ for the exploitation of the seabed. The question of the outside borders and the width of the continental shelf has not been resolved either. There are states which are in a very favorable geological position. They would like to occupy the entire sea territory and you can imagine what would happen if Brazil and Nigeria met somewhere in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. What would happen then to the seabed which has been declared the heritage of all mankind! The seabed and its wealth outside the borders of national jurisdiction must be the asset of all mankind on the basis of equal rights and international cooperation. If states in a favorable geological position took the entire part of the sea territory, then that heritage of mankind would remain a fiction.

This is one of the most difficult questions--to decide on the rules to be established on the Continental Shelf. There are also difficult questions regarding the settlement of controversies among states on the definition of sea territories. At the moment there are very sharp controversies over that, and I am sure that many more controversies are awaiting us in the future regarding the determination of sea borders among states. There are sea borders regarding territorial waters, sea borders regarding the 200-mile economic zone, if there is such, and sea borders regarding the shelf. Each of us is aware of the fact that there are many unexplored things in the seabed. Someone once said that the seabed is less explored than the side of the moon facing the earth.

'XINHUA' ON RESUMPTION OF UN LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE

Beijing XINHUA in English 0700 GMT 20 Jul 79 OW

[Barr] United Nations, July 19 (XINHUA)--The Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea resumed its eighth session here today. The first part of this session was held from March 19 to April 27 in Geneva.

The resumed session is expected to complete informal negotiations and formalize the negotiating text concerning the convention on the law of the sea. As has been the case for the past six and half years, the conference will concentrate on rules governing exploration and exploitation of the deep sea-bed, particularly the untapped mineral riches scattered about parts of the ocean floor beyond the jurisdiction of individual states.

In his opening statement, Mr H.S. Hamerasinghe, president of the conference, urged the participants to make every effort to complete the task of the session.

The session is scheduled to conclude on August 24.

CSO: 5200

USSR-SRV FISHERY COMMITTEE MEETS, PROTOCOL SIGNED

Moscow Radio in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 6 Jul 79 OV

[Text] The visiting delegation of the SRV Maritime Products Ministry headed by Minister Do Chinh has made a tour of fishery enterprises in the western part of the USSR and participated in the first meeting of the Soviet-Vietnamese fishery cooperation committee.

The meeting discussed and adopted regulations of the committee and the 1979-80 plan for scientific and technical cooperation. It also considered the issue of assistance to Vietnam in the building, expansion and restoration of (coastal) fishery projects, conditions for the activities of Soviet fishing vessels in Vietnamese territorial waters and other matters of mutual concern. The meeting concluded on 5 July.

Comrade Gulchenko, USSR deputy minister of the fish industry, and Comrade Tong Hong Can, SRV deputy minister of maritime products, have signed a protocol.

CSO: 5200

SRV MINISTER SPEAKS ON USSR-SRV FISHERY COOPERATION

Moscow Radio in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 6 Jul 79 OW

[Excerpt] Over the past years, the Soviet Fish Industry Ministry has helped Vietnam in training hundreds of undergraduate and graduate-level cadres for its fish industry, in investigating and searching for its marine resources and in building and equipping a number of initial material and technical installations of the state-run fishing industry and the Ha Long canned fish factory in Haiphong. Worthy of note was an important and great event that took place in late 1978, namely, the agreement on cooperation in fish industry signed in Hanoi between Vietnam and the Soviet Union on 27 December 1978. The Vietnamese fish industry workers who rejoiced over this signing, considered it a new development in the existing cooperation among the fish industry workers of our two countries.

Following this, in early 1979, Soviet scientific research ships rapidly searched for marine resources and fish in the Vietnamese maritime zone and achieved encouraging results. In the past few days, the joint Vietnamese-Soviet Committee for Fishery Cooperation held its first session in Moscow to discuss plans to implement the agreement. The representatives and specialists of the Vietnamese and Soviet ministries of the fish industry, who worked in an atmosphere of close friendship and mutual understanding, discussed and agreed with one another on many concrete questions designed to meet the interests of the peoples and fishery workers of the two countries. In particular, the two ministries signed a protocol on Soviet fishing vessels operating and fishing in the SRV's maritime zone.

What has recently been done in a pressing and positive manner has brought about initially good results. They manifest fraternity and comradeship in the relations of long-term friendship and cooperation among the Vietnamese and Soviet fishery workers. This greatly encourages us and makes us confident that in the future our even closer and all-round cooperation on a larger scale will certainly bring about greater successes.

Dear comrades and friends, the Soviet Union is a country with a very developed fishery and a modern fish industry ranking among the most advanced in the world. With the fraternal assistance and cooperation of the Soviet fishery workers, of the Soviet Ministry of the Fish Industry and of our Soviet colleagues--those who have vast knowledge and much experience in this field--we are confident that, with our own efforts, Vietnam's fish industry will certainly be restored, develop rapidly and become increasingly modern on the same successful pattern of the Soviet fish industry.

JAPAN SIGNS FISHING PACT WITH USSR IN MOSCOW

Tokyo KYODO in English 0615 GMT 15 Jun 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo June 15 KYODO--The Fishery Agency announced Friday that Japanese fishing operators and Sovrybflot (All-Soviet Fishery Vessel Corporation) have signed an agreement in Moscow on seven joint fishing operations. The joint operations include shrimp fishing in the Tarar Strait in the Soviet Far East and horse-hair crab fishing off the coast of southwestern Sakhalin. Of the seven, four have been cleared of domestic procedures and are now in operation. The three others are expected to be cleared of domestic procedures this month. Under the agreement, Japanese fishing vessels will operate within Russia's 200 nautical miles and pay 21-25 percent of the catches as a fishing fee to the Soviet Union. All catches by Soviet fishing vessels will be bought by Japan through trading firms.

The agreement was originally to be signed last July at the proposal of the Soviet Union after the country set 200 nautical miles as its exclusive zone. But the signing was delayed by domestic circumstances in both nations. The agreement expires this year and negotiations will start for new agreement after next year. The joint operations to start shortly are for 120 tons of horse-hair crab fishing in the coast of southwestern Sakhalin and 500 tons of shrimp in waters northern Sakhalin. Already underway are 630 tons of shrimp fishing in the Tarar Strait and 4,030 tons of tanner crab fishing in Olyutorskiy and Navarin waters.

CSQ: 5200

JAPAN DISAPPOINTED IN FISHERY TALKS WITH USSR

Beijing XINHUA in English 1830 GMT 30 Jul 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, July 30 (XINHUA)--The result of talks between Japan and Soviet Union on fisheries was disappointing to Japan as Moscow stuck to a tough stand. Japan had demanded compensation for the losses which the Russians had inflicted on Japanese fishermen and the restoration of the right to collect kelps off Soviet-held Kaigara-jima Island.

According to press reports here, Soviet fishing vessels on Japanese coastal waters had on 975 occasions torn and damaged Japanese fishermen's nets and other fishing tackle. Because of the unreasonableness on the part of the Soviet Union, the problem of compensation had become one of the long outstanding issues in Japanese-Soviet fisheries talks. During the recent talks in Moscow between Japanese Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Michio Watanabe and Soviet Fisheries Minister Vladimir Kamentsev from July 23 to 29, the Soviet side first dismissed the Japanese request for "concrete evidences being not adequate", and it was only under the rightful insistence by the Japanese minister that the Soviet side agreed in principle to make compensation, but refused to work out the specific methods.

At the talks, the Japanese side also raised the question of restoring the suspended gathering of kelps off Japan's Kaigara-jima Island. Kamentsev threatened: "Japan must recognize that it is collecting kelps off the Soviet coast." He even stipulated that "Japanese fishermen should undertake the obligation of holding permits issued by the Soviet Government." Moreover, Kamentsev once more tried to force Japan to abandon its claim of sovereignty over its four northern islands, saying that it was because "Japan always raises political issues (referring to the question of the four northern islands) which do not exist, that the talks could not proceed smoothly."

CSO: 5200

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

SPANISH FISHERMEN ASK EMBASSY TO ISSUE PROTEST NOTE TO U.S.

Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Here is a dispatch from La Coruna:

The Spanish fishing fleet in U.S. waters, which consists of some 50 refrigerated ships specializing in cephalopods, squids and [word indistinct] have informed the National Association of Owners of Refrigerated Ships in Assorted Fisheries, ANAMAR, that as a result of the proliferation of fixed fish traps laid down by American fisherman in the [word indistinct] two, the only zone allowed for foreign boats fishing in these fishing grounds, they have been forced to leave these grounds and return to port, since the area in the authorized zone free to them does not extend 3 miles. ANAMAR has sent a telegram to the director general of maritime fishing asking him to inform the Spanish Embassy in Washington of this so that a protest note can be handed to the U.S. Departments of State and Commerce and a rapid solution be found for the removal of the fish traps or the opening up of some other area for fishing.

CSO: 5200

ITALIAN FISHING VESSEL SEIZED BY TUNISIAN GUNBOAT

Rome Domestic Service in Italian 1700 GMT 7 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Another episode in the fishing war in the Sicilian channel. A Tunisian patrol craft has captured an Italian motor fishing vessel after ramming it. Our correspondent reports from Palermo.

This appears to be a very serious episode, a veritable act of piracy according to statements made over the radio by the captured crewmen of the (Diocleziano Primo), who number 12 in all. According to their version, the fishing vessel was hailed in international waters, exactly 37 miles from Lampedusa, by a Tunisian gunboat and invited to sail for Sfax. In response to the captain's protest, the North African gunboat opened fire with its machinegun and then rammed the fishing vessel with its steel bow causing a leak. Its SOS was intercepted by the minesweeper Vischio, which has patrolling duties in the Sicilian channel. The Vischio arrived on the scene and took the (Diocleziano Primo) in tow. At this point, the Tunisian seamen put out two lines and took the fishing vessel in tow. They succeeded in getting it to Sfax, despite an attempt at pursuit by the Vischio, which, however, did not open fire. The operation lasted several hours, beginning approximately 0400 this morning.

The Tunisian authorities' version is different and says that its territorial waters were violated at the 35 meter shallows northeast of the Kerkennah Islands. According to the North Africans, the Italian minesweeper which arrived in the area around 0700 attempted in fact to tow the fishing vessel out of Tunisian territorial waters. This is the first serious incident since the expiration of the fishing agreement on 19 June, the renewal of which is now being negotiated by the EEC. The incident will be examined next week at a meeting of shipowners at Mazara del Vallo, which is the principal Italian fishing port.

CSO: 5200

SEYCHELLES MINISTER INVITES ITALY TO LOOK FOR OIL

Rome ANSA in English 0830 GMT 14 Jul 79 AU

[Excerpts] Rome, July 14 (ANSA)--Italy has been invited to start looking for oil in what could be a vast lake of the energy source under the seabed off the Seychelles Islands in the Indian Ocean.

Interviewed by ANSA yesterday, the archipelago's Development Minister Maxim Ferrari, who is in Rome for FAO's conference on agrarian reform and rural development, said that the United States, Canada, Australia and Britain had all been looking for oil in the area for some time. "By the end of the year, they will start full-scale prospection," he added. "Italy could still find a bit of space, but it will have to hurry up."

According to the experts, the sea off the Seychelles could be extremely rich in oil. "I do not know much crude we have," Ferrari said, "but the fact that oil companies like TEXACO, AMOCO and BURMA have started searching in our waters seems indicative to me."

According to Ferrari, the premises for his invitation to Italy to seek oil is the archipelago's wish to remain independent in political terms. "So we hope that the maximum number of countries possible will cooperate with us," he asserted. "In this way, we can avoid having to put up with the whims of partners who are too powerful or too pushy."

But to date, he added with a note of disappointment, there has been no contact with Italy's state-run natural fuels group, ENI, "because no one has looked me up yet." "Maybe this is because they do not think there is oil in the Indian Ocean, even if the experts from other countries are very optimistic," he added.

In other points, Ferrari urged greater cooperation between Italy and the Seychelles in the field of fishing. "Our seas are very rich in fish and we have a million square meters of water. But we have not got an adequate fleet of modern and equipped boats. So Italy could contribute decisively to developing fishing too."

CSO: 5200

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

SOVIET TRAWLER ALLOWED TO LEAVE NEW ZEALAND PORT

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Jun 79 p 27

[Text] Wellington, (NZ)--The New Zealand Government will not prosecute the Soviet fishing vessel, Dneprodzernsk though it was allegedly fishing with an undersized mesh net.

The trawler was arrested about 100 kilometres north of the Chatam Islands on Wednesday night by the navy frigate HMNZS Taranaki.

The Minister of Fisheries, Mr MacIntyre said that after detailed investigation by his officers the vessel would not be prosecuted under the provisions of the 200-Mile Exclusive Economic Management Zone Act and was free to leave the port.

He was satisfied that a technical breach of the law had occurred but not of a nature sufficient to warrant formal prosecution.

The Taranaki hit the wharf when it arrived in Wellington Harbour, splintering piles and buckling her bows.

CSO: 5200

ROK GOVERNMENT SEEKS COOPERATION IN FISHERIES WITH IRAN

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 8 Jul 79 p 7

[Text] The Office of Fisheries, in a move to improve understanding and fishery cooperation with Iran, has officially invited to Korea Mohammad Ali Kahroumian, chairman of the Iran Persian Gulf Fisheries Co., and Mohammad R. Kolehini, president of the Jask Co., an affiliate of the IPGFC.

According to the fishery authorities yesterday, the officials' invitation was made July 1 at a request to that effect from the Korean embassy in Iran.

The invitations by the government was the first to leading Iranian personnel since the Islamic revolution in Iran, the office said.

Chairman Kahroumian, a close associate of Khomeini, has showed favorable reaction to Korea by, for instance, asking the Iranian authorities concerned to increase the fisheries supply by the Seil Fisheries Co. of Korea to Iran by 4,000 tons to 10,000 tons, officials concerned at the fishery authority said.

In this context, the Iranian chairman's visit to Korea is significant and is likely to provide a new opportunity for overall fishery cooperation between the two countries the officials explained.

The Seil Co. is currently operating 13 fishing boats off the Persian Gulf under a contract with the IPGFC, netting some 6,000 tons of fish including shrimp and tuna, which are exclusively exported to Iran.

In the meantime, the office plans to develop fishing grounds near Pakistan in the form of a joint venture between the Seil Co. and the RCD International Co. in Pakistan, the officials added.

CSO: 5200

BRIEFS

NORWAY-GDR TALKS--Eivind Bolle, fishery minister of the Kingdom of Norway, who is paying a visit lasting several days to our republic at the invitation of Udo-Dieter Wange, minister of Bezirk Administered Industry and Food Industry, was received on Friday [15 June] by Gerhard Weiss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. During the talks the interlocutors were in agreement that the government agreement on fishery, concluded between the GDR and the Kingdom of Norway in 1977, has proved its worth and is useful for both countries. Minister Udo-Dieter Wange and Erik Dons, ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the GDR, participated in the talks at which problems related to the further cooperation on the basis of the fishery agreement were discussed. [Text] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16-17 Jun 79 p 2 AU]

SPANISH-MOROCCAN TALKS RESUME--Spanish-Moroccan fishing talks have resumed in Rabat. The Spanish delegation, led by the undersecretary for fisheries and the merchant marine, is trying to conclude a provisional agreement allowing Spanish boats to fish in Moroccan waters until the Rabat legislature ratifies the treaty between the two countries. [Text] [Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Jun 79 LD]

ITALY-SOUTH YEMEN AGREEMENT--Rome, 29 Jun--Italy's state-run oil company, AGIP, a subsidiary of the ENI group, has signed an agreement in Aden to prospect for oil and exploit its finds in South Yemen, according to an ENI communique. ENI said yesterday that the agreement covers two areas on South Yemen's soil and continental shelf. The total area involved is about 15,000 square kilometers. This is the second agreement between AGIP and South Yemen where the ENI group has been working since 1977. Under the new agreement, AGIP accepts all exploration risks while, if oil is found, it will be divided between the two sides according to proportions laid down previously. AGIP will also train local experts in Italy and South Yemen. [Text] [Rome ANSA in English 0830 GMT 29 Jun 79 AU]

BURMA-UK PROJECT AID--The People's Pearl and Fishery Corporation is undertaking a project to set up a base for processing fish and shrimp for export at (?Thabyugyaung), Sandoway township, Arakan State. On 2 June an agreement was signed in Rangoon between the corporation and the (Bestwood Finance

Company Limited) of England for constructing a factory with refrigeration facilities, 21 vessels for fish and shrimp trawling and 2 other vessels for transporting the haul. The British Government will provide a research vessel to locate marine resources in Arakan State and two fish trawlers with refrigerated storage for the project. [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 Jun 79 BK]

LAW OF SEA COMMISSION--An expanded session of the commission for law of the sea of the Federal Secretariat for International Relations [title as heard] has ended at Brdo near Kranj. The session analyzed the report of the Yugoslav delegation attending the eighth meeting of the Third UN Law of the Sea Conference and a plan of preparations for the next meeting which will be held in New York from 16 July to 24 August. The commission advocated a more speedy adoption of a new international law of the sea convention. [Text] [Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 6 Jul 79 AU]

YUGOSLAVIA FINES ITALIAN BOAT--An Italian fishing boat with a crew of six caught fishing in Yugoslav territorial waters has been escorted to Hercegnovi. The crew was fined 42,000 dinars and the fishing nets and 280 kilograms of fish were confiscated. [Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 2 Jul 79 p 10 AU]

FISHING ACCORD WITH POLAND, FRANCE--The Polish and French governments have signed in Paris an accord on fishing by Polish fishing boats in the economic zone of the Kerguelen Islands, which are part of the French Antarctic and Southern territories and an Overseas Territory of the Republic of Poland. Nine Polish fishing vessels will be able to fish in Kerguelen waters at the same time. The accord will come into force on 1 September 1979 and will remain in force until 31 December 1980. It can be renewed in the following years. The accord was signed for Poland by Edwin Wisniewski, vice minister of foreign trade and maritime economy, and for France by Luis Roudie, minister plenipotentiary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Text] [Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 30 Jun-1 Jul 79 p 2 AU]

SOVIET ARREST BY JAPANESE MARITIME PATROL--Kushiro, July 18 KYODO--A Maritime Safety Patrol Boat arrested the captain of a Soviet fishing vessel off Erimo Cape off eastern Hokkaido Wednesday on charges of violating the Japan-Soviet fisheries agreement by failing to enter fully its fish catches in the logbook. The 648-ton ship with a crew of 30 was the first Soviet ship picked by Japanese authorities this year while operating in the Japanese national fishing zone. According to the Maritime Safety Office here, the patrol ship Shiretoko found on an on-the-spot inspection that the Soviet ship had failed to register its catches between July 10 and 11. The office will release the ship's Captain Bakchin on receiving a document from the Soviet Embassy guaranteeing a bond of yen 500,000, it said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1209 GMT 18 Jul 79 OW]

JAPAN FINED BY USSR--Sapporo, 3 Jul (KYODO)--A Vladivostok District Court ruled Monday that two Japanese trout fishing ships must pay fines and compensation amounting to about Yen 220 million for violating the Soviet Union's 200-nautical-mile waters, according to a report to the Hokkaido Prefecture's Fisheries Department coming through the Foreign Ministry. The two Japanese ships are the 48.9-ton No. 51 Aoba Maru with a crew of 11 of Nemuro, Hokkaido, and the 36.9-ton No. 35 Choei Maru with a crew of six of Nishi, Hokkaido. They were captured by the Soviet Coast Guard ships on May 11 and 20 in the Japan Sea on the charge of operating illegally. A people's court in Nakhodka had earlier ordered the Japanese ships to pay about Yen 700 million to the Soviet Union. The owners of the two ships then had appealed to the Higher Court in Vladivostok. After the first ruling, prefectural Gov. Naohiro Dogakinaï sent a telegram to the Soviet Union's Fisheries Agency and the Higher Court requesting a broad-minded disposal of the case. In handing down its ruling, the Higher Court in Vladivostok said Dogakinaï's telegram had been taken into consideration, resulting in reduction of the payment amount. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 3 Jul 79 OW]

CSO: 5200

TAIWANESE POACHING AROUND GREAT BARRIER REEF CONDEMNED

Recent Cases Reported

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 29 May 79 p 2

[Text]

TWELVE Taiwanese fishermen were jailed for three months each in Brisbane yesterday.

The men were found drifting in two dories in the Swain Reefs area, 193 kilometres east of Mackay, three weeks ago.

They were fined \$500 each in the Brisbane Magistrates Court last Friday in default three months in jail. They were not given time to pay.

Police went yesterday to the Wacol Migrant Centre, where the Taiwanese fishermen had been staying. The men were taken to Brisbane Jail.

Fifteen fishermen

fined a total of \$70,000 in Cairns two weeks ago have until today to pay their fines.

The men face jail terms between three and four months each if their fines are not paid.

In Darwin the master of a Taiwanese fishing boat was jailed for two weeks yesterday when he appeared in Darwin Magistrate's Court on an illegal fishing charge.

Doong Jiann Liang, 54, skipper of the boat Kao Cheng No. 21, was convicted of having fished in Australian territorial waters off the Northern Territory coast earlier this month.

He was convicted also of having attempted to bribe an officer of the arresting boat, HMAS Barbetta.

The magistrate, Mr G. Galvin, fined Liang \$300 and ordered forfeiture of his boat and catch.

Effects of Clam Fishing

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 26 May 79 p 19

[By Bruce McKean]

[Text] **SCIENTISTS** have not been able to estimate accurately the extent of damage to the Great Barrier Reef.

All agree that the removal of a large number of clams must have an effect on the ecological system.

But the role of the giant clam *Tridacna Gigas* is not fully understood and research has been limited.

It also is impossible to find out the total number of clams killed by Taiwanese poachers since they first started raiding the Barrier Reef 20 years ago.

When HMAS Bayonet apprehended the Ming Yih Shyang in October, 1976, scientists and arresting officers spent several days counting the clams she had on board.

The Ming Yih Shyang carried 174 bags of clam meat. Each bag had an average of 363 muscles.

This proved that one vessel had killed 45,012 clams on one trip to the reef. Any clam boat which goes back to Taiwan with full freezers would have destroyed 50,000 clams.

At a rate of 20 boats a year, one million clams are killed annually. And Taiwanese have been raiding the reef since at least 1958.

Marine surveyors charting the Great Barrier Reef have used satellite pictures in their work. Pictures show the Great Barrier Reef, from Thursday Island in the far north to Rockhampton, is made up of 1140 reefs of different sizes.

Queensland University surveys reveal an average-size reef has a clam population of 15,000.

Using these figures, the total clam population in the Great Barrier Reef is 17 million. So it would take the Taiwanese another 17 years to complete their destruction.

Taiwanese started coming to the reef in 1958, when other reefs around American Samoa, Fiji and Papua-New Guinea were fished out.

Queensland's reefs are the only major clam reserve in the world.

Clams are protected in Australia by law, so North Queensland fishermen are not financially affected by the Taiwanese presence.

But the fishermen realise the reef is a major tourist attraction, bringing millions of dollars to North Queensland each year.

The fishermen despise the Taiwanese and report any sightings of clam boats.

In Cairns, Mackay and Townsville, the word "Taiwanese" provokes disgust and anger.

There is no Australian market for clam meat so confiscated catches are dumped in deep channels, well out to sea so the meat will not get washed up on our shores.

North Queensland fishermen jokingly refer to clam meat as "shark food."

Many marine scientists would like to carry out studies on the effect of removing large numbers of clams from the reef.

But several studies by universities have had little financial backing and results were inconclusive.

But it is known that the clam feeds by filtering plankton and small eggs from the sea. This surely helps regulate the populations of other species living on the reef.

Clams are the main Taiwanese target. But other marine animals and wildlife are taken.

Turtles are another Taiwanese delicacy and some captured clam boats have had turtles and their meat in frozen storage.

They also have been known to take terns and gannets, sea birds which nest on coral islands in the reef.

Another popular catch is the highly colorful Triton shellfish. It grows up to 45 centimetres long. A polished Triton shell can sell in the United States for \$100.

Effects of reducing the Triton population are well known to reef lovers. The Triton is the main predator of the coral-eating Crown of Thorns Starfish.

The Great Barrier Reef, one of the greatest natural wonders of the world, has been threatened by the Crown of Thorns Starfish and possible oil drilling.

Those issues might die down and sneak out of the limelight. But the Taiwanese problem lingers. Slowly, the Taiwanese are savaging the reef's beauty.

"Over-collecting of reef animals by humans poses a bigger threat to the reef than any other issue," Queensland University Reader in Zoology (Dr. Bob Endean) said.

"Clams which took between 20 and 100 years to grow can be killed in minutes. It will be a long time before others take their place."



MAP shows the date and location of Taiwanese clam boats seized off the North Queensland coast since 1975. Since November, 1975, 15 Taiwan clam boats have been arrested and the captain or crew charged.

'COURIER-MAIL' Editorial

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 30 May 79 p 4

[Editorial: "The Rape of the Barrier Reef"]

[Text] A recent COURIER-MAIL investigation of the raping of the Great Barrier Reef by Taiwanese clam poachers showed that the damage they do to the reef is not disfigurement but destruction.

The Federal and State Governments must become more aware of this. The reef is one of Australia's priceless natural assets.

Canberra has extended, during the last 12 months, air and sea surveillance of the reef area. But is it even now enough?

Taiwanese fishing vessels still come with great and damaging regularity. The recent sentencing of crews to jail terms may act as a deterrent but this is not yet certain.

Illegal clam fishing is doing to the reef the kind of damage conservationists have become alarmed that other forms of exploitation might do, and it has been going on for years.

The State Government needs to explain how one of its appointed boards, the Queensland Butter Board, became involved in a court defence of a Taiwanese poacher. It seems the sale of some tonnes of milk powder and butter oil was felt to be sufficient warrant for this involvement.

The Federal Government must spell out more clearly the Australian public's dismay at this reckless pillage of the reef, and promise stronger action. The State Government must back it up,

CSO: 5200

TAIWANESE CONTINUE TO POACH IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS

More Fines, Jail Sentence

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 12 Jun 79 p 3

[Text] Mackay.--The captain of the Taiwanese fishing boat Chi Hung was sentenced to eight months' jail in Mackay Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Three crew members who had previously been aboard a captured fishing boat in Mackay in February were each fined a total of \$1200, in default six months' jail with no time to pay.

The remaining 13 crew members were each fined \$1000, in default five months' jail, with no time to pay.

They appeared before Mr. John Winmill, Acting S.M. After the court hearing, the Chi Hung captain, Liou Cherng Yuen, said he had no idea he would be imprisoned.

Through an interpreter, Liou said he did not know what sentence would be passed on charges of having breached the Continental Shelf Act.

He said it was not general knowledge in Taiwan that fishing boat captains and crew were being jailed for poaching in Australian waters.

Commonwealth Crown Prosecutor, Mr. I. W. Bates, told Mr. Winmill there were 28 Taiwanese fishermen in Australian jails.

He said the Great Barrier Reef was the only place left in the world for giant clams.

"Consistent fishing for them has a devastating effect on the overall ecology of the reef," he said.

Mr. Bates said 9900 giant clams, with a total weight of 990 kg had been caught by the Chi Hung crew in two days.

He said the vessel had a capacity for 15 tonnes of clams.

He told the court the charts seized by Queensland Boating and Fisheries patrol officers included aerial photographs of Swain Reefs.

Such charts were not usually available to Australian fishermen.

Mr. Winmill told Liou courts were imposing jail sentences on captains of fishing boats because so

many were coming into Australian waters.

"It is difficult to detect them and I suggest you return to Taiwan after your release from prison and circulate this information," he said.

Each of the crew members was ordered to pay \$16.25 court costs and \$50 professional costs.

Australian Firms Involved

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 13 Jun 79 p 3

[Text] The Federal Government should name Australian firms which acted as agents for Taiwanese companies that sent fishing boats to North Queensland waters, the Labor Member for Griffith, Mr. Humphreys, said yesterday.

Mr. Humphreys said the Primary Industries Minister (Mr. Sinclair) had a list of the companies concerned.

Mr. Humphreys and the State Member for Sandgate (Mr. Warburton) went to Brisbane Jail yesterday to interview two of 28 Taiwanese fishermen jailed so far this year.

Mr. Warburton said the two men were concerned that their families in Taiwan had no one to care for them.

"The men told us they were paid \$125 to go fishing for clams on the Great Barrier Reef," he said.

"But they said they had not been told by their captain that they would be doing something illegal."

Effort

"It appears these men are victims of harsh circumstances. They had to work to care for their families but now their relatives have no one to look after them."

"One man had a wife, two sons and aged parents depending on him. The other had three dependents," Mr. Warburton said.

Mr. Humphreys said the Federal Government should concentrate on penalising the Taiwanese companies and the captains of poaching clam boats.

"We have not been told of any effort by the Taiwanese Government to ease the problem of illegal fishing," he said.

CSO: 5200

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

JAPAN MAY ASK AUSTRALIA FOR TUNA FISHING RIGHTS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 25 May 79 p 3

[From Alan Goodall]

[Text] Tokyo, Thursday--Japan will toss out a line in Canberra today for its biggest-ever catch in Australian seas--the right to fish for \$50 million worth of tuna a year.

But the bait on the hook, \$1 million in annual fees for fishing rights, is too small for Australia even to nibble at.

Unless a newly-arrived Japanese Government negotiating team more than doubles the bait, its fishing trip will drag on for weeks.

A top-ranking Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries official told me in Tokyo yesterday he was confident an Australia-Japan fishing agreement would be signed within a month. He said it would be worth \$20 million a year to Australia--\$17 million in sales to Japanese fishermen and at least \$2 million in fishing fees.

The talks starting in Canberra today between a Japanese delegation of nine and officials of the departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Resources are a nibbling session.

The real trawling begins next week when more Tokyo bureaucrats arrive to discuss the exact wording of the first major treaty since Australia formalized its claim to marine resources in its continental shelf zone.

The snag is the fishing fee. Until the price is agreed on, the other unsettled details from earlier Canberra negotiations, mainly in the text, remain fish stories.

Treaty talks got into murkey waters as soon as Australia asked for \$3.5 million in annual fishing fees and Japan offered \$600,000.

Both sides have compromised since last July, but not so far that either government is ready to initial the first important marine resources pact between the two countries.

At stake is the tuna, particularly the bluefin tuna, that big sporty fish the long-line fishermen haul in from the southern ocean.

Tokyo people love to eat the tuna as sushi — raw fish. They prize slices of raw tuna on rice as a true delicacy.

Bluefin tuna is selling at Yaizu fish markets, near Tokyo, for about \$7.50 a kilo — dearer than imported Australian beef and much dearer than Australia's other tuna, the big-eye at around \$2.70 and yellowfin at \$1.80.

From 9000 to 15,000 tonnes of frozen Australian tuna is shipped to Japan each year by the globe-wandering fishing fleet. It's only a small proportion of Japan's 300,000-tonne catch, but it is significant to both countries.

Japan needs the treaty. New international sea laws give Australia rights to marine life of unestimated value that the fish-dependent Japanese want.

A treaty will be valuable to Australia. It will retain the \$17 million the fishermen spend in Hobart, Fremantle, Sydney and Brisbane. And it will set a precedent for fishing pacts with other countries.

AUSTRALIA, INDONESIA REOPEN TALKS ON SEABED BORDER

Melbourne THE AGE in English 23 May 79 p 8

[Text]

From PETER RODGERS
JAKARTA, May 22. — A second round of talks between senior Australian and Indonesian officials aimed at establishing the seabed boundary between East Timor and Australia opened here today.

The talks follow discussions on the seabed boundary in Canberra last February which signalled Australia's willingness to formally accept Indonesia's full legal control of East Timor.

Discussions involved the closing of a 320-kilometre gap in the existing Australian-Indonesian seabed boundary along the south coast of East Timor.

The gap resulted from the inability of Australia and Portugal to reach agreement on a seabed boundary during Portuguese administration of East Timor.

At stake in the negotiations is control over a huge slab of the Bonaparte Gulf basin to Australia's north which is believed to have good potential for oil and natural gas production.

Both the Indonesian and Australian Governments have been approached by major oil companies interested in obtaining oil exploration licences in the area.

The Australian Government had in fact issued licences in the area now under dispute to about eight companies, including the oil giants BP, Esso and Shell, before the Indonesian takeover of East Timor in 1975.

Australia and Indonesia have strong opposing ideas on the formula that should be used to determine a seabed boundary.

ROK FISHING BOATS TO OPERATE IN PAKISTAN WATER

Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 Jul 79 p 3

[Text] Korean deep-sea fishing vessels will be able to operate in the waters off Pakistan for the first time thanks to a fisheries cooperation agreement between the private fisheries companies of Korea and Pakistan.

According to the Office of Fisheries yesterday, Sail Fisheries Co, which has been providing Iran with 6,000 tons of fish a year, was recently requested to increase the volume to 11,000 tons this year by Persian Gulf Fisheries Co. of that country, and it started negotiations with RCD Traders International Ltd. of Pakistan, one of the leading fishery firms of the nation, to advance to Pakistani waters as part of its efforts to expand fishing grounds.

The officials said that agreement to that effect was signed between Kim Jong-soo, president of Sail Fisheries Co and K. Murad Bey, president of the Pakistan fisheries firm Monday.

They said that among the important terms of the agreement are:

--Both countries will carry out survey operation for two years, and expand joint operation after then.

--Approved period will be two years and it can be extended according to the result.

--Of the total fish catch, 30 percent will be paid to the Pakistani company either in cash or in kind as royalty.

--Operating zone will be all the waters near Pakistan inclusive of Pakistani territorial waters.

CSO: 5200

BRIEFS

PIRATES IN NEW GUINEA--Port Moresby, Tuesday--Papua New Guinea's police are searching for foreign fishermen, said to have terrorised villagers in the Milne Bay area at the south-eastern tip of the country. Sketchy reports from the area say the fishermen, who are thought to be Taiwanese, have been coming ashore to raid village gardens for food. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 23 May 79 p 3]

JAPAN-ROK FISHING CONFLICT--Tokyo (AFP)--Japan will have to expel Korean fishing boats from its 200-mile fishery zone unless south Korea adopts effective measure which will lead to voluntary restraint by Korean fishermen, a Fishery Agency official warned Friday. Seiji Mori, director general of the agency, speaking to newsmen here, expressed hope that Japan and south Korea would find solution to troubles caused by the Korean fishing boats before they hold regular ministerial meeting in September. He spoke to newsmen after inspecting Korean boats' operation off Hokkaido. Japan claims Korean boats operating in Japanese waters have caused more than 500 million yen (\$2.3 million) in damage to fishing nets. Mori said the Japanese side is waiting for south Korea's reaction to Japanese decision to expel Korean boats operating in Japanese waters. [Text] [Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Jul 79 p 1]

FORUM IN SOLOMON ISLANDS--Honiara, Solomon Islands, July 9 KYODO--The two-day South Pacific Forum (SPF) opened here Monday with the participation of leaders of 10 countries and two territories. Among those attending the opening ceremony were Peter Kenilorea, chief minister of the Solomon Islands; John Douglas Anthony, deputy prime minister of Australia; Robert D. Muldoon, prime minister of New Zealand; and Ebia Olewale, deputy prime minister of Papua New Guinea. At the closed discussions at a hotel here, the Micronesia Federation's bid for admission to the forum as an observer was expected to be studied. Other items on the agenda are expected to include approval of a constitution and organizing the forum fishery agency, trade and industrial development and shipping and aerial navigation between the member units. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0357 GMT 9 Jul 79 OW]

MEETING HELPS CLARIFY STATES' RIGHTS IN ADJACENT SEAS

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 28 May 79 p 30

[Text]

A meeting in Darwin has helped to clarify State and Commonwealth powers in fields such as pollution from ships, ship registration, fishing operations and navigation.

The WA Minister for Transport, Mr Rushton, said after a meeting of the Marine and Ports Council that the Commonwealth now recognised State rights to legis-

late to protect waters and beaches from possible pollution.

The Commonwealth had also agreed that licensing and control of fishing boats and the registration of pleasure craft were State responsibilities.

Mr Rushton said he had emphasised that WA would not forgo such rights.

It also wanted some control over boats servicing off-shore rigs and industries in waters off the WA coast.

The Federal Minister for Transport, Mr Nixon, has assured him that the Commonwealth's proposal to register Australian ships would not interfere with the established State licensing and registration schemes for fish-

ing boats and pleasure craft.

WA's responsibility for fishing boats based in WA would be maintained.

Mr Rushton said that Australian ships involved in overseas and interstate trade were registered in Britain. It was intended to have such ships registered in Australia.

CSO: 5200

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

WHALING POST--Canberra.--The Minister for Science and Environment, Senator Webster, announced the appointment yesterday of the director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Professor J. D. Ovington, as Australia's new whaling commissioner. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 7 Jun 79 p 8]

GULF OIL EXPLORATION--A major international oil company is among several seeking oil exploration permits for Gulf of Carpentaria waters. States Mines and Energy Department officials confirmed yesterday that there were 13 applications for permission to investigate a 90,650 km area. The area--in four lots--is southwest of the Torres Strait and abuts the Queensland-Northern Territory seabed boundary. The State Government called applications after deciding on the area with the Federal Government. Officials expect it will take three months before the Government--again in consultation with Canberra--grants prospecting authorities. If permits are granted, they will be the first since the last applications were invited in 1968. These never reached the permit stage because of the huge Santa Barbara oil spill off the United States West Coast. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 5 Jun 79 p 1]

CSO: 5200

BRIEFS

WHALE IMPORTS BANNED--Tokyo, 26 Jun, KYODO--The International Trade and Industry Ministry announced Tuesday that Japan would ban imports of whales and whale products from countries that are not members of the International Whaling Commission (IWC), starting 5 July. The ban is in line with the IWC resolutions on such imports made twice, in June 1977 and December 1978, for prevention of the extinction of whales, MITI officials said. Japan imported 6,030 tons of whales last year from nations outside of the IWC--2,776 tons from Cyprus, 2,645 tons from Spain and 597 tons from Somalia. Whale imports from IWC member nations accounted for 28,000 tons last year. [Excerpts] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1025 GMT 26 Jun 79 OW]

CSO: 5200

POLAND

CONVENTION ON MARITIME SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS RATIFIED

LD280531 Warsaw PAP in English 1324 GMT 27 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 27 June, PAP--The Council of State of Poland today ratified a convention on the establishment of the International Maritime Satellite Communications Organization (INMARSAT). The aim of the organization is to provide an international system of maritime communications with the help of artificial satellites.

Poland's accession to INMARSAT will create possibilities for more effective utilization of Polish merchant and fishing fleet and increase the navigation safety.

The Council of State also announced the withdrawal by the end of the present year from the 1949 convention on fisheries in the north-western Atlantic and the six protocols attached to it as the questions of further (communication) in that area are to be regulated by a new convention.

CSO: 5200

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

PROPOSED COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA SEA LIMIT TALKS--Bogota--It has been agreed to create a six-member delegation that will initiate negotiations on delimiting the sea area between Colombia and Venezuela. This was decided at a preliminary meeting held by a mixed Colombian-Venezuelan delegation. The agreement was reached in Cartagena following 3 days of negotiations. The delegation that participated in the preliminary meeting will meet again within 10 days in the Carabayeda Hotel near the Venezuelan city of La Guajira. [Text] [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 79 PA]

CHILE ACCUSES ARGENTINA OF VIOLATIONS--Punta Arenas, Chile, 14 Jul (AFP)--It was learned here that Chile today denounced Argentina's continuing campaign to violate Chile's Beagle Channel air and maritime space. The governor of the Antarctic Province, Capt Gaston Drouguett, said in Punta Arenas, 2,500 km south of Santiago, that well-armed Argentine torpedo boats and fighters have been violating Chilean territory in maneuvers which he labeled as "astounding." Captain Drouguett added that these violations have intensified since January and that an average of three violations per week is taking place. The officer said that in view of this situation the forces under his command are patrolling all southern territories around the Beagle Channel which historically belong to Chile. He said: "Our people are calm in the face of these hostile actions which are taking place in the midst of John Paul II's mediation and after arbitration which awarded Chile three islands in the Beagle Channel." Captain Drouguett reported in conclusion that every one of the alleged air and maritime violations in the indicated area of the Chilean territory have been reported to the Chilean Foreign Ministry. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1657 GMT 13 Jul 79 PY]

COLOMBIA HOLDS ECUADOREAN BOAT--Quito, 16 Jun (EFE)--The Ecuadorean fishing boat "Adriana" was captured by a Colombian patrol boat while it was fishing in the border area, the local press reported today. According to the report, the crew, headed by Capt Jose Panta Mero, was forced to board the Colombian patrol boat. The incident, which occurred on Thursday, was reported to the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry by Agustín Jimenez, president of the Association of Fishing Shipowners [Asociación de Armadores Pesqueros]. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0008 GMT 17 Jun 79 PA]

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

GOVERNMENT POSITION ON LAW OF SEA OUTLINED

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Jul 79 pp 1, 11 FL

[Text] Trinidad and Tobago will continue to resist colonialism of the sea bed and its resources by technologically advanced countries. This was stated by Rep. Errol Mahabir, minister of energy and energy-based resources, and minister in the Ministry of Finance when he formally opened the fourth Latin American Geological Congress at the Hilton Hotel in Port-of-Spain yesterday. He said the policy of Trinidad and Tobago was based on the desire to ensure that the resources of the sea bed beyond national jurisdiction remained the common heritage of mankind and not the prerogative of a few technologically advanced states. "Trinidad and Tobago," he said, "will continue to lead its support to resist efforts designed to introduce a new colonialism... that of the sea-bed and its resources... by those countries with a monopoly of the technical know how."

Rep. Mahabir outlined to the geologists Trinidad and Tobago's position on the continental shelf and the sea bed beyond national jurisdiction. He said Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela could lay claim to be the first states to recognise that the continental shelf might harbour valuable mineral resources and to claim jurisdiction over the resources. The minister noted that in 1942 Trinidad and Tobago and the Republic of Venezuela claimed jurisdiction over their respective areas in the Gulf of Paria and the act ushered in the state practice on the concept of the continental shelf. Declarations by the Latin American states, he said, contributed to the general acceptance of the concept of the continental shelf later codified by the 1958 Geneva Convention.

Rep. Mahabir said: "The future economic stability of Trinidad and Tobago is largely dependent on the resources present on its continental shelf which extends in certain areas to 240 miles and covers an area of some 15,000 square miles." "Trinidad and Tobago," he said, "subscribes to the principle that the continental shelf is a natural prolongation of its land territory and has therefore supported the retention of the continental shelf regime in any new convention of the law of the sea." He noted that the 1958 Geneva Convention on the continental shelf was incorporated in the laws of the country.

CSO: 5200

VENEZUELA

OFFSHORE DRILLING UNCOVERS GAS RESERVOIR

PA290324 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 24 Jun 79 P-1-1 PA

[Text] A great gas discovery, possibly the greatest in the history of Venezuelan petroleum exploration, has just been made by LAGOVEN, an affiliate of the Venezuelan Petroleum Company. The discovery was made on the continental shelf north of the Paria peninsula. At this well, 40 km north of the peninsula and 200 km east of Margarita, tests were made at four levels. These revealed the potential for a giant production structure with a combined output of some 90 million cubic feet a day, equivalent to more than 12,000 barrels of crude petroleum a day.

Patad 1, located in water 120 meters deep, reached a drilling depth of over 13,000 feet and was exhaustively tested at four levels. The evaluation methods designed by LAGOVEN technicians revealed a daily production capacity of 24.3 million cubic feet at the lower level, 25.7 million cubic feet from the two intermediate levels and 39.8 million cubic feet from the upper level.

CSO: 5200

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL WATERS--The South-West African National Assembly has unanimously approved a proposal that South-West African territorial waters be extended. The chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Mudge, proposed that the administrator general be asked to take steps as soon as possible to extend South-West Africa's territorial waters to 12 miles and its economic zone to 200 miles. Mr Mudge said it was very difficult to exercise control over the foreign fishing trawlers which are making huge catches off the coast and there was a danger that fishing resources would be endangered. [Text] [Johannesburg International Services in English 0300 GMT 27 Jun 79 LD]

CSO: 5200

FISHING INDUSTRY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES EXPLOITATION OF THE SEAS

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 12, 12 Jun 79 pp 34-35

[Interview with Deputy Director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Marine Fishing and Oceanography P.A. Moiseyev in Moscow by V. Zheltov: "The Ocean Today and Tomorrow"]

[Text] In the "Basic Directions for the Growth of the USSR National Economy for the 1976-1980 Period" the task is assigned: "to develop scientific bases for the rational use and conservation of the land, mineral resources, plant and animal life, air and water basins; to expand comprehensive investigations of the World Ocean..." The interview by our correspondent with the deputy director of the All Union Scientific Research Institute of Marine Fishing and Oceanography, doctor of Biological Sciences, Professor P.A. Moiseyev, included remarks on how these plans of the party are being realized and on how the ocean's riches will be used in the present and future.

[Question] Peter Alekseyevich, from the name of your institute it is clear that it combines both scientific-research projects with the solution of economic problems.

[Answer] Yes, we received our working baton from "Plavmorina" (Floating Marine Institute), which was founded on Vladimir Il'ich Lenin's initiative in 1921. In the final analysis we closely relate all of our research projects to specific problems of the national economy.

In general, interest in the ocean has increased on a geometric scale in recent years. Many scientists and specialists believe that our planet should be called not the Earth but the Ocean insofar as more than sevenths of its surface is covered by water, which is the foundation of foundations. Life, as is known, started in the ocean, and the latter was and remains an incalculable storehouse of biological and energetic resources, much of which has not yet been studied nor opened up.

[Question] Then that's why the ocean is sometimes called "inner space." It would be interesting to know whether there are similarities in opening up space and the ocean depths.

[Answer] Yes and no. Much is identical, research equipment, for example. It is noteworthy that the inventor of the world's first bathyscaphe (maximal deep underwater habitable apparatus) was none other than the designer of the world's first stratospheric aerostat, Auguste Picard. However, while in space flights the onboard pressure decreases from one atmosphere to zero, during oceanic immersions the pressure increases from one to one hundred thousand atmospheres in a few kilometers.

Furthermore, in space interplanetary ships cover distances in millions of kilometers, but in the ocean so far there has been only an 11-kilometer descent by Picard's son and the American Don Walsh. Their achievement is still the record after two decades, even though we're in the years of intensive development of science and technology.

[Question] Since when did people try to open up the ocean depths?

[Answer] Since ancient times. A bas-relief cut out of stone 1000 years before our era has been found. An Assyrian warrior, swimming under water and breathing air from a wineskin is pictured on it. A 14th century miniature has been preserved, which bears an imprint of a descent to the bottom of the sea in a glass barrel of the great general of antiquity, Alexander of Macedon, who sought underwater means of fighting the enemy's fleet. Descriptions of underwater rowboats of the Dnieper Cossacks have survived. Yes, men have been attracted to the ocean depths for a long time, but the first to conquer them were military personnel, naval commanders.

In the modern era Engineer-Rear Admiral N.N. Zubov, one of the founders of Soviet science of the ocean, has directed the first Soviet high-latitude investigations of the ocean depths. The first scientific-research submarine in the world was a former submarine of the USSR Navy. It was transferred to our institute in the fifties, appropriately refurbished and named the "Severyanka." It has made 130 complicated dives under rigorous conditions of the solar circle.

[Question] Who was in the crew of the "Severyanka?"

[Answer] When the second--the scientific-research--birth of the submarine was reported in the press, many reserve sailors joined the crew. For example, S. Zhovtenko who had served on the submarine when it was a line battle ship proved to be a first-class specialist. At that time he was respectfully called the "king of the air and the water" for his exceptionally skillful control of the diving and surfacing mechanisms. The former front-line soldier, candidate of geological and mineralogical sciences D. Gershanovich came to the crew with the Order of the Red Star. S. Potaychuk,

a graduate of officer courses and still a young specialist of commercial oceanology, was on the ship. V. Kitayev, a diver and diving instructor who also was in charge of underwater filming, even joined the group of scientists as a laboratory worker. All--from the submarine commander who never tired to seaman K. Antonovich who distinguished himself by his courage in the expeditions--were prepared for tests in the polar campaigns by service in the navy and army.

An interesting note. On 2 Jan 1959 diving of the first scientific-research submarine "Severyanka" coincided with the launching of the first automatic interplanetary station "Luna-1", which became the first artificial satellite of the Sun. The conquerors of the earth's ocean sent congratulations by radio to the conquerors of the stellar ocean. The congratulatory radio communication was symbolic--one of its participants, S. I. Potaychuk, now heads the section at our institute for development of basically new methods of scientific space investigation of the oceans. Cosmonauts and aquanauts are united in a single scientific staff. The friendship of aquanauts with submariners-sailors has become traditional since the time of the "Severyanka."

[Question] Now science itself is rich in vessels for deep diving and in special equipment. It would be interesting to know by what paths the development of underwater technology has grown?

[Answer] The genealogy of underwater technology has its roots in the deep past. For a long time this technology was quite primitive. Thus, in the 16th century people descended below water beneath a large vessel with the bottom turned upside down. In the 16th century the German physicist Sturm decided to make a deep descent under such a "diving bell," but with air supplies in bottles. A native son and inventor from among the peasants Yefim Nikonov, during the reign of Peter I, descending into water, put a wooden barrel on his head with an air reserve in an ox bladder.

The water, as is known, becomes dangerous in the first centimeters of immersion. Human lungs are capable of breathing air of the atmosphere through a tube only to a drop of pressures to 0.1 atmosphere while each ten meters of depth increase such a drop by a whole atmosphere. In order for human lungs to work in such a situation, it is necessary to equalize the pressure in them with the changing pressure of the water. Such "equalizing" equipment--the aqualung--was invented by the Frenchmen E. Gan'yan and J. Cousteau in 1943. This invention greatly helped the headlong dash to development of many branches of science and technology which are related to opening up the ocean.

Jacques-Yves Cousteau soon designed his own "diving saucer" for shelf (continental) 200-300 meter depths, refurbished a barrel-like cistern as a "habitable underwater house." The Swiss Keller remade an ordinary fuel tank-cistern into a diving bell. The accelerated decompression during surfacings from shelf depths which Keller developed seemed sensational at

the time. However, there were victims; this sensation immediately cost two lives--A British diver Whittaker and the founder of the British underwater club, the aquanaut Small. The ocean had again demonstrated that rash behavior and unjustified risk could not be the methods of its investigation.

Serious, painstaking work on the planning and construction of neither "barrels" nor "cisterns", but of complex technical rigging of "hydrocosmic" devices began in the advanced countries of the world. By this time they are so numerous that it is difficult to enumerate all of them in a short interview. They are diving bathyspheres, hydrostats and self-propelled vessels for shelf depths, medium-depth mesoscaphes and abyssal bathyschapes, underwater houses-laboratories and entire underwater colonies of aquanauts. The scientific assault of the "inner cosmos" of our planet has finally begun in actuality.

[Question] What will opening up of the "inner cosmos" give to people?

[Answer] It can be defined briefly as continuation of life on earth. Let us remember how two centuries ago Malthusians predicted the end of all life because of exhaustion of the biological and energy resources of the planet. The successors of the dismal scientists even now continue to sound the alarm concerning "overpopulation" of the planet, and they prophesy food and energy hunger for the near future. Their false theories are being proved wrong by the prospects of developing land and the ocean depths, which are unfolding before humanity.

Theoretically, even individual species of living substances in the ocean, individual algae and microorganisms, if all obstacles to their multiplication were removed, could yield in a short time a biomass equal in volume to the mass of the entire Earth. J. Cousteau with typical French humor called individual deep layers of the seas a "soup", so thickly saturated are they with primary elements of living matter--biogens. However, only in the upper layers of the ocean which are penetrated by the Sun's rays--the zones of so-called photosynthesis--are microalgae and plankton, the primary feed for the inhabitants of the sea, being generated in the biogenic "soup." In the near future technology will allow man to intensify the rise of deep waters and the transfer of deep biogens into zones of photosynthesis. This will greatly stimulate the bioproductivity of such zones, and consequently, the productivity of the food species of sea fauna.

Much feed, as it settles downward, arrives unnoticed in zones of "eternal darkness," although in places such zones are rich in self-luminous microorganisms which will easily survive both in living matter and in an artificial biomedium. There is an amusing incident which gives evidence of this. On the Soviet scientific vessel "Vityaz'," which was in the tropics at New Year's time, the crew and scientists were sorry that they could not greet the winter holiday with a Christmas tree and snow. They decorated a small spruce tree, and their own microbiologists created "snow" for it.

They painted with an ordinary brush a culture of luminous bacteria raised by them onto a plate of a solid nutrient medium, and after several hours entire drifts of "snow" started to sparkle on the plate in the flickering lunar light. This New Year's surprise was, of course, not the intended goal, but a routine scientific experiment. Theoretically, it is calculated that one bioluminous hydrobacterium under ideal conditions is capable of filling huge spaces by "drifts" of its progeny in one day. The relatively easy survivability of such bacteria causes one to think of the possibility of "illumination" of deep feed for inhabitants of the deep, which would significantly raise the productivity of the ocean.

In general I'm speaking of biogens and plankton as raw materials of sea production. They are a kind of feed stock--the first link in the natural chain of potential bioresources of the ocean.

[Question] Peter Alekseyevich, it is known that the waters of the ocean have huge mineral resources. How realistic is their utilization?

[Answer] Actually, the mineral resources of the seas and oceans are incalculable. Polymetallic concretions--compounds of manganese, cobalt, iron and other elements--can now be simply gathered from the ocean bottom. Many of the concretions raised from the depths were on small pieces of solid rock, even on fallen sharks' teeth (it changes them up to a hundred times). Aquanauts joke: "With the sharks' teeth we will bite away iron, manganese, cobalt, nickel on the bottom sections." Various compounds of metals and hydromicroorganisms are given up which are assimilated directly from the water into basically oxidizing metals. Nonoxidizing ones--platinum, gold,--are frequently alkalized. Gold also appears and, speaking figuratively, man can mine it in "the tailings" of ocean metal extractors. A quite profitable new branch of the mining industry--"biohydrometallurgy"--is already born.

At greater (abyssal) depths of the ocean one is much closer to the secret of secrets--to the mantle of the Earth, the mythical underground "foundry." Hydronauts have seen its active volcano pipes there. There one can ladle, it is said, ready-made alloys from ready-made sea blast furnaces. The water itself is in constant motion. Why, this is an inexhaustible source of energy. Thus, for each square kilometer of stormy ocean (at wave height of 5 m) up to three million kilowatts of energy are spent in vain, and on the shores of many oceans the waves reach 6 meters even on ordinary surf, and even larger.

[Question] There is an expression: "The problems of the ocean are an ocean of problems." Which of them are already solved?

[Answer] Tidal hydroelectric power stations which are seemingly fantastic have been constructed recently and are operating, underwater plantations of protein algae have been cultivated, and so have bottom-dwelling farms of mollusks; the feed structures and fauna of entire seas have been reconstructed.

Sturgeon of the Caspian, let us say, have been feeding by decision of ichthyologists, on "biorecolonizers" from the Azov-Black Sea for a long time which has sharply increased their productivity and numbers.

In the South of the country the "Yuzhanka"--a submarine, whose expedition was headed by the Lenin Prize Laureate, the creator of the principles of Soviet school of the study of coasts V. P. Zenkovich--took the baton from the "Severyanka" at the beginning of the 70's. They studied underwater canyons of the Black Sea in which huge masses of coastal pebbles creep during storms. One such canyon was even called "Shark" because of its insatiety. By studying the destructive action of waves, scientists concluded that they are capable of creating the coasts, mooring places and beaches needed by man under specific conditions. This has already been carried out in practice. In this manner the ocean, when guided by man, becomes a builder. Can we now seriously consider the warning of the NeoMalthusians of an energy and food famine on our planet when already in the next decades mankind, albeit in the initial stages, will make use of the world ocean--an enormous storehouse of both mineral and biological resources? No, it is no wonder that oceanologists announce from the highest platforms that the ocean has been and remains the cradle of life. And because since time immemorial the pioneers in opening up the sea depths were seamen, so now we, scientists, who are busy utilizing the "inner cosmos" of our planet, await reinforcements from the ranks of our glorious army and navy.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DANISH, SWEDISH, FINNISH TERRITORIAL WATERS PLANS REPORTED

Helsinki Radio in English to Europe, Far East, Australasia, S. America
and NW Africa 0930 GMT 29 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Pending the widening of territorial waters, Denmark and Sweden will leave a 6-nautical-mile--that is, about 12 kilometers--international sea passage lane in the straits between the two countries, it was announced in Copenhagen on Thursday. Sweden will be extending her waters from 4 to 12 nautical miles at the beginning of July. Denmark is also expected to extend her territorial waters in the near future, says the Danish news agency. Finland is, for the time being, applying the 4-mile territorial waters line. There has been discussion in Finland about widening territorial waters, but no action has been taken on the matter.

CSO: 5200

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

PREMIER CONFIDENT COD WAR BETWEEN ICELAND, NORWAY CAN BE AVOIDED

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 29 Jun 79 p 16 LD

[Morten Fynh dispatch: "No Danger of a 'Cod War' Between Iceland and Norway"]

[Text] Reykjavik, 28 June--"There is no danger of a 'cod war' between Norway and Iceland," Icelandic Prime Minister Olafur Johannesson told AFTENPOSTEN before Friday's emergency meeting between the two countries here in Reykjavik.

The prime minister thinks that it must be possible to come to an agreement on cod fishing regulations. He will not rule out that there could be a solution at the meeting which both sides could accept.

CSO: 5200

SOUTH COAST FISHERMEN URGE REJECTION OF SOVIET LIMITS SUGGESTION

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 20 May 79 p 7

[Article by Rune B. Axelsson]

[Text] The future drawing of the fishing boundary between Gotland and the Baltic coast was the big question Saturday when the Swedish South Coast Fishermen's Alliance held its congress in Ronneby. Under no circumstances should Sweden go along with the Soviet Union's alternative plan for drawing the boundary line, it said.

There is an international convention from 1938 that governs how fishing boundaries between two nations shall be drawn. It states that islands with a settled population and their own economic life shall be equated with mainland in drawing boundaries. According to this convention, the future fishing boundary should be drawn midway between Gotland and the Baltic coast.

The reason there are still two different alternative fishing boundaries in this area, however, is that the Soviet Union and Sweden have not managed to reach an agreement.

The Soviet Union believes, namely, that the future fishing boundary should be drawn midway between the Swedish mainland and the Baltic coast, which is very favorable for the Soviet Union. In this case, the boundary would go just off the coast of Gotland.

The south coast fishermen emphasized that Sweden's negotiators in these boundary questions must not give in to Soviet pressure, but rather base their position on the existing international conventions.

Another question closely related to the new fishing boundaries is the Swedish fishermen's right to fish in EC waters off Bornholm.

Here the criticism was at times quite bitter toward the Fishery Board. The thing is that state authorities are trying to steer fishing in the Baltic Sea so that it is directed more toward cod than it is at present. The reason for this is that there is a certain surplus of herring, since herring fishing is the most profitable.

At the same time, however, the Fishery Board is granting licenses to west coast fishermen to fish for herring in the Bornholm region during the height of the best cod season. This is the time when the south coast fishermen really want to work there. Herring fishing, on the other hand, can be carried out with equal success in exclusively Swedish regions, for example off Vastervik.

At their congress, the south coast fishermen stated that, of the limited number of fishing boats allowed to fish the Danish EC-waters during the cod season, preference should be given those fishing for cod.

The south coast fishermen called for logical consistency in the granting of licenses.

Otherwise, this congress was characterized by the fact that south coast fishing can look back on good work with good profitability. It is perfectly clear that the new fishing boundaries have created conditions for considerably better profits in fishing as well as confidence in the future.

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